DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF FARIDPUR, 1891.

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DISTRICT CENSUS REPORT.

No. 1488, dated Faridpur, the 18th April 1892.

From—T. L. JENKINS, Esq., late District Magistrate of Faridpur,

To—The Secretary to the Government of Bengal, Financial Department.

WITH reference to your Circular No. 7T.F., dated the 3rd October 1891, forwarding Census Circular No. 6T.F. of the same date, I have the honour to submit the following report about the recent census of this district, as requested therein:—

REPORT ON THE CENSUS OF THE DISTRICT OF FARIDPUR, 1891.

HEAD I.—EARLY HISTORY, ETC.

FARIDPUR district is bounded on the north and east by the river Ganges, called also at various stages Padma and Meghna, west by the river Gorai or Madhumati, and south by the district of Backergunge. It lies between the Pabna district on the north, Jessore on the west, Backergunge on the south, and Dacca on the east. Up till 1874, when *thanas* Madaripur, Kotalipara, Palang, and Sibchar were included in the Backergunge district, the southern side of the district was separated from Backergunge by the river Kumar and a succession of large morasses.

2. The following statement shows the distribution of population and the area, &c., of the district:—

THANAS.	Area in square miles.	Number of villages.	Total occupied houses.	POPULATION.		
				Male.	Female.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Faridpur	174	197	19,288	50,243	46,742	96,985
Bhushana	135	315	21,494	50,377	51,805	102,182
Awanpur	156	348	21,646	49,924	53,024	102,948
Bhanga	175	511	37,058	93,099	94,790	187,889
Muksudpur ...	220	427	30,529	86,058	90,360	176,418
Total ...	860	1,798	130,015	329,701	336,721	666,422
Madaripur... ...	240	454	34,103	95,855	97,693	193,548
Gopalganj	171	179	15,765	48,573	48,261	96,834
Kotalipara ...	139	246	15,080	39,235	39,894	79,129
Palang	308	485	55,968	134,563	144,521	279,084
Sibchar	121	183	22,241	66,802	65,050	131,852
Total ...	979	1,547	143,156	385,028	395,419	780,447
Goalundo	140	323	23,581	67,055	58,983	126,038
Baliakandi... ...	123	264	19,047	48,460	49,338	97,798
Pangsa	165	471	23,618	62,847	63,768	126,615
Total ...	428	1,058	66,246	178,362	172,089	350,451
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,267	4,403	339,417	893,091	904,229	1,797,320

Area of the district in square miles in—

1872.	1881.	1891.
1,496	2,267	2,267

3. In 1872, *thanas* Madaripur, Palang, Kotalipara, and Sibchar, comprising an area of 771 square miles, were not censused in this district, as they were at that time included in the district of Backergunge.

During the last ten years there have been some changes in the *thana* jurisdiction of the Goalundo subdivision. Formerly Belgachi was a *thana* in that subdivision, but it was subsequently converted into a new *thana*, called Baliakandi, with new boundaries.

In the year 1883, 69 square miles, containing 114 villages, were transferred from Pangsa to Baliakandi; 39 square miles, containing 144 villages, from Belgachi to Pangsa; 52 square miles, containing 108 villages, from Belgachi to Baliakandi; and 43 square miles, containing 83 villages, from Belgachi to Goalundo *thana*. The total area of the subdivision was not affected in any way on account of these changes. There is no distinction between the civil and criminal jurisdictions of the district.

4. The total population from 1872 in the present area of the district is shown, *thana* by *thana*, in the following statement:—

THANAS.	Area in square miles.	POPULATION.		
		1872.	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4	5
Faridpur ...	174	85,661	91,551	96,985
Bhushana ...	135	114,262	107,415	102,182
Awanpur ...	156	102,146	100,257	102,948
Bhanga ...	175	141,619	168,718	187,889
Muksudpur ...	220	134,825	156,933	176 418
Total ...	860	578,513	624,874	666,422
Madaripur ...	240	235,947	165,917	193,548
Gopalganj ...	171	88,224	85,341	96,834
Kotalipara ...	139	59,627	66,152	79,129
Palang ...	308	176,423	256,250	279,084
Sibchar ...	121	71,283	116,765	131,852
Total ...	979	631,504	690,426	780,447
Goalundo ...	140	107,084	106,050	126,038
Baliakandi ...	123	77,970	65,069	97,798
Pangsa ...	165	107,365	150,366	126,615
Total ...	428	292,419	321,485	350,451
GRAND TOTAL ...	2,267	1,502,436	1,636,785	1,797,320

The population of the district per square mile is given below:—

1872.	1881.	1891.
662	722	792

The northern portion of the district, *i.e.*, the Goalundo subdivision, is the most populous, having 350,451 souls in all, or 819 persons per square mile. The middle portion of the district, that is, the Sadar subdivision, is the lowest, having 666,422 souls in all, or 775 persons per square mile. The southern portion of the district, though comparatively less populous as shown in the census return, having 780,447 souls in all, or 797 persons per square mile, is the most densely populated part after all, as a considerable portion of it is covered by morasses and *bils*. In the recent census, the percentage of increase of population of this district is 9·8, against 8·6 in 1881. The increase is due to natural causes aided by the development of trade in the Madaripur and Goalundo subdivisions.

5. Fortunately for the district, though there are no sanitary arrangements in the interior, the natural drainage is good, and consequently the people generally keep fairly good health. The district is naturally divided into two parts, each presenting distinct physical characteristics. The first, or northern division, possesses a rich, light, sandy soil. It is comparatively high, is well wooded, and, with the exception of a few low plains devoted to the cultivation of *áman* rice, is capable of producing in abundance every description of cold-weather crops.

The second, or southern division, which commences from the Sadar station, is marshy, and becomes gradually lower until it approaches Backergunge, where it loses itself in one immense swamp. The river banks are high, and share in the prosperous appearance of more favoured tracts; but in the interior, where the lands are low, the villages appear like isolated islands, especially in the rainy season. In most of these marshy places *dhan* is grown in abundance, except in some which do not dry up in any season of the year, and consequently remain uncultivated. The banks of the streams traversing the swamps of the south are covered by one long continuous line of densely populated villages. The river Kumar, for instance, which winds like a huge snake throughout the centre of the district, presents this spectacle. Similarly also the Sitallakya and other streams.

The southern part of the district is largely inhabited by low-caste Chandals; they are generally cultivators and strongly attached to their rural homes. Their homesteads are built on large mounds of earth, which are generally 12 to 20 feet above the bed of the swamps. During the rainy months, while the whole country becomes inundated and locomotion almost impossible except by boat, they have to collect their cattle and keep them in their homesteads, and feed them on what fodder they store up during the dry season. Faridpur district is encircled on the north, east, and west by large rivers. During the last 20 years, the greater portion of the north and of the east sides have been washed away by the river Padma or Ganges and have re-formed in the shape of new *chars*.

6. The entire district is a portion of ancient Banga, the geographical extent of which was far less than what is now known as Bengal Proper. But looking to the divisions of the principal castes, who in ancient times were named after the provinces which they inhabited, it appears that people from other parts of the country, *e.g.*, Uttar Rahr, Dakhin Rahr, Barendra, immigrated into this district at a very early period. This fact can be traced from the names of the different sections of the Brahmans and Kayasthas who at present inhabit it. The Kayasthas are generally divided into Bangaja, Uttar Rahri, and Dakhin Rahri, and Brahmans into Rahri, Barendra, and Vaidik. All these divisions are found in this district.

The district of Faridpur is the original birthplace of Bangas, Kayasthas and the Vaidik Brahmans. Those belonging to other divisions of Rarhi, Barendra, &c., are so called from the places from which they originally came. The southern side of the river Ganges is called Banga, and the north side Barendra Bhumi, while the western side of the river Hooghly is called Rahr. As regards the Vaidik, a division of the Brahmans, it is not traceable from what place they came or when they settled in Bengal. These Brahmans perform the Vaidik ceremony (*Adya sraddh*), and hence are called Vaidik. They are divided into two classes—Dakhinatya and Paschatya. From the etymology of these words, it seems that the former section immigrated into Bengal from the south, and the latter name (Paschatya) either signifies that they came from the west, or that they came after the Dakhinatyas. It is, however, difficult to say when, and from what place, they came and settled in Bengal.

Head II.—Movement of the population.

7. The following table shows the increase and decrease of the district population, *thana* by *thana*. The general increase of 9·8 per cent is due, as I have already stated, to natural causes, and also to the development of trade in the Madaripur and Goalundo subdivisions:—

Thanas.	Population.		Variation per cent.	
	1891.	1881.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5
Faridpur	96,985	91,551	5·82	...
Bhushana	102,182	107,415	...	4·87
Awanpur	102,948	100,257	2·68	...
Bhanga	187,889	168,718	11·36	...
Muksudpur ...	176,418	156,933	12·41	...
Total ...	666,422	624,874	6·64	...
Madaripur	193,548	165,917	16·65	...
Gopalganj	96,834	85,341	13·46	...
Kotalipara	79,129	66,153	19·61	...
Palang	279,084	256,250	8·91	...
Sibchar	131,852	116,765	12·92	...
Total ...	780,447	690,426	13·03	...
Goalundo	126,038	106,050	18·84	...
Baliakandi	97,798	65,069	50·29	...
Pangsa	126,615	150,366	...	15·79
Total ...	350,451	321,485	9·01	..
Grand Total ...	1,797,320	1,636,785	9·80	...

The decrease of population in *thana* Bhushana is due to the following causes:—

1*st*.—Saidpur in Bhushana was formerly the principal seat of commerce in the district, when the river Barasia was navigable throughout the year and the banks of the river were densely populated, but as now it dries up in the hot season, its former importance has greatly diminished.

2*nd*.—*Thana* Bhushana being comparatively thickly wooded and covered with jungle which gives cover to wild boars, a large number of cultivators have been obliged to shift their residence to the neighbouring *thana* Baliakandi.

The decrease of 15·79 per cent. in Pangsa *thana* is also due to similar causes. The increase of 50·29 per cent. in *thana* Baliakandi is partly due to natural causes and partly to migration of a large number of cultivators from *thanas* Bhushana and Pangsa.

Some new *chars* have formed in the jurisdiction of *thana* Goalundo, where many cultivators have settled permanently. Goalundo is also the principal centre through which the population of Eastern Bengal moves. A large number of pilgrims from Eastern Bengal went to Calcutta on the occasion of the Ardhodaya Yoga (bathing festival), which took place a few days before the night of the census. Many of these were counted at Goalundo on their way back a few days after. These are some of the probable causes of the increase of the population of this *thana* by 18·84 per cent. Kotalipara is comparatively low and produces *áman dhan* in abundance. The increase of 19·61 per cent. in this *thana* is due entirely to natural causes. The greater part of *thana* Madaripur is open land. The more the *chars* become habitable, the more the cultivators come from the neighbouring district of Barisal to settle in these tracts. Hence the increase of 16·65 per cent. The increase of population in all other *thanas*, as shown in the statement under that head, is due entirely to natural causes.

8. Faridpur has at present only two towns, viz., the Sadar and Madaripur. Formerly there was another town at Goalundo, which was washed away by the river Ganges about four years ago. The Goalundo subdivision was, therefore, removed to Rajbari, but no town has yet been formed there. In 1872, there were no towns in this district except Faridpur. The town population itself of the district is—

Towns.	1872.	1881.	1891.
1	2	3	4
Faridpur ...	8,593	10,263	10,774
Madaripur ...	...	12,298	13,772
Goalundo ...	...	8,652	...

The largest town in the district is Madaripur. Faridpur town has no manufactures, and is simply a depôt of country trade. Madaripur is the centre of a flourishing jute trade, and is situated at the junction of two rivers, Arialkhan and Kumar. There has been no extension of jurisdiction in the municipalities of Faridpur and Madaripur since 1872.

9. The number of Government employés preponderates in the urban population, and amongst the latter must also be included a number of strangers who come in search of employment; consequently the number of different religions found amongst the urban population is greater than in the rural tracts. Town population is also more dense as compared with other tracts.

10. On examining the census returns of this district, it appears that out of 1,797,320 persons, 1,723,988 were born within the district, 65,104 in other districts of Bengal Proper, and 8,228 in other places. Out of the 8,228 souls, 4,772 belong to Bihar, 236 to Chota Nagpur, 208 to Orissa, and 3,012 to other places. Most of the persons born outside the district are found in urban areas and hold employment under Government, while a few may be occupied in trading. There is no immigration or emigration, strictly so called, in the district. There is, however, a temporary immigation of reapers from other places in the jurisdiction of Kotalipara *thana* during the harvest time. Many agricultural labourers also migrate temporarily to Backergunge to cut paddy.

11. There is no mining centre in this district. On examining the tabulation register IX of this district, it appears that 8,228 people out of 1,797,320 souls immigrated to this district from other places, and chiefly from Bihar. It also appears that almost all of them were shown under town population. They generally belong to the caste of Kshatriya, Goala, Kurmi, Rawanibehara, Nunia, &c., and are employed as menial servants, palki-bearers, and earth-diggers. They are tempted here by the higher rate of wages.

12. The following table shows the caste, occupation, &c., of these immigrants:—

Name of district from which emigrated	Number and name of village and block.	Number of persons.	No.	Caste.	Occupation.
1	2	3	4	5	6
Patna	Ghatakhan, 2697 ...	31	3	Kshatriya ..	Zamindars' peons.
			28	Kurmi ...	Palki-bearers.
Chapra	Rupar, 2060 ...	43	39	Goala ..	Earth-diggers.
			4	Dhanuk ...	Ditto.
	Charkhagdi, 2031 ...	85	15	Moirah ..	Day-labourers and earth-cutters.
			11	Kurmi ...	Ditto.
			30	Dhanuk ...	Ditto.
			14	Kumar ...	Ditto.
			15	Shaha ..	Ditto.
Monghyr	Gopalpur, 740 ...	8	8	Rawanibehara	Palki-bearers.
Chapra	Samanta Sadhan, 2647 ...	25	25	Nunia ...	Day-labourers.
Do.	Saulpara, 2182 ...	5	5	Sheik ...	Quilt-makers.

Head III.—Varying density of the population.

13 The following statement shows the varying density of the population in different parts of this district:—

Thanas.	Persons per square mile.			Increase or decrease per square mile in 1891 as compared with the totals of 1881.		Increase or decrease per square mile in 1881 as compared with the totals of 1872.	
	1891.	1881.	1872.	Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Faridpur	557	526	492	31	...	34	...
Bhushana	757	796	846	...	39	...	50
Awanpur	660	643	654	17	...	...	11
Bhanga	1,074	964	809	110	...	155	...
Muksudpur ...	802	713	613	89	...	100	...
Total ...	775	727	672	48	...	55	...
Madaripur ...	806	691	983	115	...	...	292
Gopalganj	566	499	515	67	...	...	16
Kotalipara ...	569	476	429	93	...	47	...
Palang	806	832	573	74	...	259	...
Sibchar	1,090	965	589	125	...	376	...
Total ..	797	705	645	92	...	62	...
Goalundo	900	757	765	143	...	...	8
Baliakandi ...	795	529	633	266	...	...	104
Pangsa	767	911	650	...	144	261	...
Total ...	819	751	683	68	...	68	...
Grand Total ...	793	722	662	71	...	60	...

During the last ten years there have been great changes in the *thana* jurisdiction of the Goalundo subdivision, the details of which have been stated in paragraph 2. The density of the population of the district and the causes of increase and decrease have been discussed in paragraph 4.

Two thanas, Faridpur (7,224) and Goalundo (7,698), have each a village population of 5,000 and more. Five more have a population of more than 3,000, viz., Madaripur, Gopalganj, Kotalipara, Palang, and Sibchar.

14. The subjoined table shows the number of villages in each *thana* in this district classified according to population :—

Thanas.	Total number of villages.	Total population.	1—199.		200—499.		500—999.		1,000—1,999.		2,000—2,999.		3,000—4,999.		5,000—9,999.	
			No.	Population.	No.	Population.	No.	Population.	No.	Population.	No.	Population.	No.	Population.	No.	Population.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Faridpur	197	96,985	61	8,323	81	27,743	34	23,896	17	22,249	1	2,306	2	5,238	1	7,224
Ahushana	315	102,182	135	14,626	117	35,511	50	33,067	12	15,849	1	2,229	...	...	...	...
Awanpur	318	102,048	166	19,019	125	39,458	46	29,759	10	12,489	1	2,223	...	...	...	...
Bhanga	511	187,889	205	27,849	194	62,993	82	57,286	28	35,541	2	4,220	...	...	...	...
Muksudpur	427	176,418	156	18,241	158	53,358	76	53,465	35	47,216	2	4,138	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,798	666,422	723	88,064	675	219,063	288	198,373	102	133,344	7	15,116	2	5,238	1	7,224
Madaripur	454	193,548	166	18,6 7	155	51,133	89	61,068	36	40,725	6	15,405	2	6,610	...	...
Gopalganj	179	96,834	56	6,993	62	21,120	32	22,119	24	31,596	3	8,061	2	6,945	...	...
Kotalipara	246	79,129	137	12,613	53	16,982	42	28,398	12	15,581	1	2,499	1	3,056	...	...
Palang	435	279,084	140	14,753	147	46,662	118	79,416	53	68,409	21	48,544	6	21,300	...	...
Sibchar	183	131,852	42	5,337	48	16,277	47	34,281	40	57,491	3	7,372	3	11,094	...	...
Total ...	1,547	780,447	541	58,303	465	152,174	328	225,282	165	213,802	34	81,881	14	49,005	...	...
Goalundo	323	126,038	155	18,407	101	33,435	51	34,585	13	23,175	...	...	2	8,738	1	7,698
Baliakandi	264	97,798	102	12,069	106	35,981	41	26,345	12	16,357	3	7,055	...	...	...	...
Pangsa	471	126,615	221	24,031	191	55,497	48	32,297	11	14,790	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	1,058	350,451	478	54,498	398	124,913	140	93,227	36	54,322	3	7,055	2	8,738	1	7,698
Grand Total ...	4,403	1,797,320	1,742	200,865	1,538	496,150	756	516,882	303	401,468	44	104,052	18	62,981	2	14,922

The lands in all the thanas of the Madaripur subdivision and in Muksudpur, Bhanga, and Awanpur, of the Sadar subdivision, are very fertile, and produce in abundance crops in both seasons. This is, however, a rice-producing district. Jute cultivation is, however, rapidly increasing. The introduction of the Bihia sugar mill has improved the outturn and quality of sugar.

Head IV.—Religion.

15. The following statement shows the distribution of the population of this district according to religion, as compared with the population in 1881 and 1872:—

Hindus.							Muhammadans.						
1872.	1881.	1891.	Variation in 1881 as compared with the population in 1872.		Variation in 1891 as compared with the population in 1881.		1872.	1881.	1891.	Variation in 1881 as compared with the population in 1872.		Variation in 1891 as compared with the population in 1881.	
			Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.				Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
628,391	653,992	697,669	25,601	...	43,677	...	869,116	974,983	1,096,030	105,867	...	121,047	...

Christians.							Buddhists.						
1872.	1881.	1891.	Variation in 1881 as compared with the population in 1872.		Variation in 1891 as compared with the population in 1881.		1872.	1881.	1891.	Variation in 1881 as compared with the population in 1872.		Variation in 1891 as compared with the population in 1881.	
			Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.				Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
2,050	2,741	3,539	691	...	798	...	...	13	4	13	...	...	9

All others.							Total of all religions.						
1872.	1881.	1891.	Variation in 1881 as compared with the population in 1872.		Variation in 1891 as compared with the population in 1881.		1872.	1881.	1891.	Variation in 1881 as compared with the population in 1872.		Variation in 1891 as compared with the population in 1881.	
			Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.				Increase.	Decrease.	Increase.	Decrease.
29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42
2,879	5	78	...	2,874	73	...	1,502,436	1,631,734	1,797,320	129,298	...	165,586	...

16. It appears from the above statement that the number of Muhammadans of this district is greater than that of Hindus. This is probably owing to its being contiguous to the district of Dacca, which was, for a long time, the seat of the Muhammadan Government of Bengal, and which still contains a large Muhammadan population. The *char* cultivators are mostly Muhammadans. They increase more rapidly than the Hindus, owing to the prevalence of widow-marriage among them. One Dudu Meah in the present century professed to preach a purer form of Islamism, and succeeded in organizing the Muhammadans (especially the lower classes) of this district into a distinct sect. His son is still looked upon as the head of the Ferazi sect, and his house in the Madaripur subdivision is still visited by Muhammadans from neighbouring districts.

The very large decrease under the head of "All other religions" in 1881, in comparison with 1872, was due to the entry of many persons as Hindus who were at the census of 1872 classed as aborigines.

17. There is no shrine or other sacred place in this district either of the Hindus or Muhammadans. Some Bunias and Chandals of this district have been converted to Christianity, and one Muhammadan and a few Hindus were converted to Brahmoism during the last ten years. No new sect has sprung up in this district. Here, as in other districts, the Vaishnava and the Sunni sects predominate in the Hindu and Muhammadan religions, respectively. The subjoined statement shows the distribution of population in each *thana* according to religion:—

Showing distribution of the population in each thana according to religion.

Thanas.	Hindus.			Muhammadans.			Christians.			Brahmos			Buddhists.			Jains.			Total of all religions.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Faridpur	17,849	16,667	34,516	32,349	30,039	62,388	24	27	51	18	8	26	3	1	4	...	..	...	50,243	46,742	96,985
Bhushana	17,761	19,085	36,846	32,415	32,720	65,335	...	...	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	..	50,177	51,805	102,182
Awanpur	13,978	15,835	29,813	35,946	37,189	73,135	...	...	...	..	...	...	..	...	...	...	...	...	49,924	53,024	102,948
Bhanga	28,810	31,216	60,026	64,265	63,554	127,819	5	1	6	19	19	38	..	...	...	...	..	...	93,099	94,790	187,889
Mukundpur	42,218	45,125	87,343	43,525	44,939	88,464	315	296	611	...	...	...	...	.	...	..	..	...	86,058	90,360	176,418
Total ...	120,616	127,928	248,544	208,700	208,441	417,141	344	324	668	38	27	65	3	1	4	.		...	329,701	336,721	666,422
Madaripur	38,425	40,114	78,539	57,253	57,436	114,689	177	143	320	...	.	...	...	...	...	..	...	...	95,855	97,693	193,548
Gopalganj	29,389	29,696	59,085	19,126	18,493	37,619	58	72	130	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	..	..	48,573	48,261	96,834
Kotalipara ..	27,750	28,300	55,550	10,853	10,443	21,296	1,132	1,151	2,283	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	39,235	39,894	79,129
Palang	43,331	52,129	95,460	92,228	92,392	185,620	2	...	2	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	134,563	144,521	279,084
Sibchar	15,410	16,427	31,837	51,392	48,623	100,015	..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	66,802	65,050	131,852
Total ...	153,805	166,666	320,471	229,852	227,387	457,239	1,369	1,366	2,735	2	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	.	385,028	395,419	780,447
Goalundo	22,008	19,723	41,729	44,954	39,214	84,168	87	43	130	1	2	3	...	...	...	7	1	8	67,055	58,983	126,038
Balakandi	22,453	23,745	46,198	26,007	25,593	51,600	...	...	...	...	...		...	...		...	...	..	48,460	49,338	97,798
Pangsa	19,439	21,288	40,727	43,405	42,477	85,882	3	3	6	...	...	..		...	...	...	...	.	62,847	63,768	126,615
Total .	63,898	64,756	128,654	114,366	107,284	221,650	90	46	136	1	2	3	...	...		7	1	8	178,362	172,089	350,451
Grand Total .	338,319	359,350	697,669	552,918	543,112	1,096,030	1,803	1,736	3,539	41	29	70	3	1	4	7	1	8	893,091	904,229	1,797,320

Kotalipara and Gopalganj are two outlying *thanas*. It has already been stated that this district is the principal seat of the Vaidik Brahmans, whose original residence was Kotalipara. They offered a strong opposition to the Muhammadans when the latter attempted to settle in those tracts, the result being that the Hindu population of those *thanas* even now preponderates. Even to the present day the Vaidik Brahmans lead a life according to the highest and purest Hindu ideal. The Christian religion was at first introduced into the Kotalipara, Gopalganj, and Muksudpur quarters of this district by Mr. Page, a missionary, who came from Barisal and succeeded in converting many Chandals. Some progress has since been made by the Rev. Mathuranath Bose of Gopalganj.

Those of the Hindu religion who worship the god Vishnu are called Vishnu-worshippers or Vaishnavas. The tenets of Vaishnavism are more liberal than those of Saktaism. Vaishnavas must not, however, sacrifice animals. As, however, they are not obliged to lead an active life, many of them become professional beggars. Nearly all the Muhammadans of this district belong to the sect of Sunni, because most of them were originally Hindus and were converted to Muhammadanism by Sunni Khalifas, or missionaries who came from Arabia.

Head V.—Infirmities.

18. The subjoined table shows the total number of persons suffering from various infirmities classified *thana* by *thana*. The definitions of insanity and leprosy which were defined for the purposes of census were well understood by the enumerators of this district.

Thanas.	Insane.			Deaf and Dumb.			Blind.			Lepers.			Total.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Faridpur	40	23	63	53	40	93	54	30	84	5	8	13	152	101	253
Bhushana	22	26	48	56	32	88	47	33	80	18	4	22	143	95	238
Awanpur	19	16	35	27	17	44	28	26	54	12	4	16	86	63	149
Bhanga	44	42	86	77	45	122	80	44	124	39	9	48	240	140	380
Muksudpur	48	47	95	74	47	121	48	30	78	47	9	56	217	133	350
Total ...	173	154	327	287	181	468	257	163	420	121	34	155	838	532	1,370
Madaripur	28	29	57	81	39	120	68	31	99	41	5	46	218	104	322
Gopalganj	21	19	40	51	33	84	44	26	70	51	17	68	167	95	262
Kotalipara	17	15	32	28	17	45	19	13	32	27	6	33	91	51	142
Palang	80	55	135	81	51	132	78	54	132	57	13	70	296	173	469
Sibchar	27	26	53	50	15	65	44	29	73	20	6	26	141	76	217
Total ...	173	144	317	291	155	446	253	153	406	196	47	243	913	499	1,412
Goalundo	35	27	62	59	37	96	51	46	97	22	6	28	167	116	283
Haliakandi	32	23	55	26	21	47	42	22	64	17	3	20	117	69	186
Pangsa	45	27	72	38	33	71	61	40	101	40	11	51	184	111	295
Total ...	112	77	189	123	91	214	154	108	262	79	20	99	468	296	764
Grand Total ...	458	375	833	701	427	1,128	664	424	1,088	396	101	497	2,219	1,327	3,546

Head VI.—Education.

19. The table below shows the literate and illiterate of different classes of this district:—

Religion.	Male.				Female.				Total of both sexes.			
	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.	Pupils.	Literate.	Illiterate.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Hindu	18,979	53,860	265,480	338,319	701	2,875	355,774	359,350	19,680	56,735	621,254	697,669
Musalman ..	5,263	18,833	528,822	552,918	134	300	542,678	543,112	5,397	19,133	1,071,500	1,096,030
Christian ..	84	282	1,437	1,803	44	119	1,573	1,736	128	401	3,010	3,539
Buddhist ...	...	3	..	3	...	...	1	1	..	3	1	4
Jain	...	6	1	7		...	1	1	.	6	2	8
Brahmo ..	12	21	8	41	4	11	14	29	16	32	22	70
Total ..	24,338	73,005	795,748	893,091	883	3,305	900,041	904,229	25,221	76,310	1,695,789	1,797,320

Out of 1,797,320 souls, 25,221 are pupils, 76,310 literate, and 1,695,789 illiterate. Out of 76,310 literate, 2,416 persons are English-knowing.

20. The following statement shows comparative statistics of schools and pupils since 1882-83:—

Year.	Number of schools.	Increase (+) or decrease (—).	Number of pupils.	Increase (+) or decrease (—)
1	2	3	4	5
1882-83	1,005	+ 519	13,012	+ 26,693
1883-84	1,524		39,705	
1884-85	2,605	+ 1,081	51,588	+ 11,883
1885-86	2,332	— 273	44,744	— 6,844
1886-87	1,305	— 1,027	32,036	— 12,708
1887-88	1,930	+ 625	44,202	+ 12,166
1888-89	1,641	— 289	39,970	— 4,232
1889-90	1,707	+ 66	39,330	— 640
1890-91	1,336	— 371	31,035	— 8,295

The above table shows net increase and decrease of schools and pupils since 1882-83. The cause of the decrease in this district is chiefly due to the rise in the price of food, which prevented the poorer classes of the people from sending their children to school. In years when cholera breaks out, schools are, of course, found to decrease.

21. The following statement shows spread of education in different parts of this district in relation to character and religion of population:—

Thanas.	High English Schools.					Middle English Schools.					Vernacular Schools.					Total.				
	Number of schools.	Pupils.				Number of schools.	Pupils.				Number of schools.	Pupils.				Number of schools.	Pupils.			
		Hindu.	Musalman.	Christian.	Total.		Hindu.	Musalman.	Christian.	Total.		Hindu.	Musalman.	Christian.	Total.		Hindu.	Musalman.	Christian.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Faridpur	2	304	30	4	338	2	216	54	2	272	54	736	374	3	1,113	58	1,256	458	9	1,723
Bhushana ...	..					3	101	20	..	121	98	1,380	693	...	2,073	101	1,481	713	...	2,194
Awanpur						...	...	...	...	...	69	949	471		1,420	69	949	471		1,420
Bhanga	1	110	26		136	2	125	18		143	84	1,331	596	...	1,927	87	1,566	640		2,206
Muksudpur	...	..	..	...	...	2	81	18	...	99	140	2,163	921	13	3,097	142	2,244	939	13	3,196
Madaripur	1	137	4		141	6	434	119	1	554	28	565	223	...	788	35	1,136	346	1	1,483
Gopalganj		...			..	4	244	45	13	302		...	...	...		4	244	45	13	302
Kotalipara			...	..	...	1	64	2	...	66	3	50	25	..	75	4	114	27		141
Palang	1	52	1	...	53	6	616	22		638	20	674	137	..	811	27	1,342	160	..	1,502
Sibchar	...	..	...	...	...	1	31	1	..	32	1	63	10	...	73	2	94	11	...	105
Goalundo	1	312	33	...	345	1	80	11	...	91	78	1,058	726	..	1,784	80	1,450	770		2,220
Baliakandi	1	59	1		60	8	323	99	...	422	63	906	539	...	1,445	72	1,288	639	...	1,927
Pangsa	..	.	..	...		3	146	20	...	166	87	1,251	775	..	2,026	90	1,397	795	..	2,192
Total ...	7	974	95	4	1,073	39	2,461	429	16	2,906	725	11,126	5,490	16	16,632	771	14,561	6,014	36	20,611

Of the 20,611 pupils at schools, 14,561 were Hindus, 6,014 Musalmans, and 36 Christians. Of the seven high English schools, the Government Zillah School is by far the most successful institution in the district. Next to it comes Raja Surja Kumar's Institution. Then comes the Madaripur High School, and then the Arkandi Unaided Institution.

Head VII.—Languages.

22. The subjoined tables show the distribution of the chief languages in the district. Out of 1,797,320 persons found in the district on the night of the census, 1,790,632, or 99·6 per cent. of the whole, speak the Bengali language. Bengali is the principal language of the district. The remaining 6,688 persons speak different languages, the details of which have been given in the table.

Parent tongue.

LANGUAGES RETURNED.

MALE.

Thanas.	Sex total.	Bengali.	Hindi.	Urdu.	Nagri.	Persian.	Greek.	Uriya.	English.	Burmese.	Pashtu.	Khotta.	Arabic.	Sonthali.	Panjabi.	Jar.	Sanskrit.	Cabulian.	Kodh.	Khanjani.	Madrasi.	Armenian.	Buddhist.	Unspecified.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Faridpur	50,243	49,664	527	3	24	4	7	10	2	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bhushana	50,377	50,266	79	...	16	...	...	11	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Awanpur	49,924	49,878	25	...	1	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bhanga	93,099	92,798	268	16	11	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muksudpur	86,058	85,961	43	1	5	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	329,701	328,567	942	20	57	4	7	49	2	2	5	...	1	25	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madaripur	95,855	95,356	487	...	2	1	...	2	7	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gopalganj	48,573	48,430	8	...	125	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kotalipara	39,235	39,200	35	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Palang	134,563	134,109	391	...	55	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sibchar	66,802	66,524	228	14	31	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	385,028	383,628	1,149	14	213	6	...	5	7	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Goalundo	67,055	64,514	2,237	58	96	12	...	21	81	...	...	...	...	4	...	8	1	3	14	1	1	1	1	2
Baliakandi	48,460	48,416	31	...	9	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pangsa	62,847	62,635	156	6	41	...	...	3	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	178,362	175,567	2,424	64	146	12	...	26	86	...	...	...	...	4	1	8	1	3	14	1	1	1	1	2
GRAND TOTAL ...	893,091	887,782	4,515	98	416	22	7	80	95	2	5	1	6	29	1	8	1	3	14	1	1	1	1	2

LANGUAGES RETURNED.

FEMALE.

Thanas.	Sex total.	Bengali.	Hindi.	Urdu.	Greek.	Uriya.	English.	Sonthali.	Jar.	Kodh.	Khanjani.
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37
Faridpur	46,742	46,545	185	1	3	...	8	...	...	...	...
Bhushana	51,805	51,780	14	...	...	...	...	2	...	...	...
Awanpur	53,024	53,024	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bhanga	94,790	94,787	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muksudpur	90,360	90,322	5	...	...	...	...	33	...	...	...
Total ...	336,721	336,467	207	1	3	...	8	35	...	...	...
Madaripur	97,693	97,668	20	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...
Gopalganj	48,261	48,148	113	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kotalipara	39,894	39,892	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Palang	144,521	144,504	17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sibchar	65,050	65,042	8	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	395,419	395,254	160	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...
Goalundo	68,983	68,068	794	50	...	21	42	1	3	4	...
Baliakandi	49,338	49,337	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pangsa	63,768	63,724	42	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	172,089	171,129	837	50	...	23	42	1	3	4	...
GRAND TOTAL ...	904,229	902,850	1,204	51	3	23	55	36	3	4	...

TOTAL NUMBER OF PERSONS SPEAKING—

Thanas.	Total of both sexes.	Bengali.	Hindi.	Urdu.	Nagri.	Persian.	Greek.	Uriya.	English.	Burmese.	Pashtu.	Khotta.	Arabic.	Sonthali.	Panjabi.	Jar.	Sanskrit.	Cabulian.	Kodh.	Khanjani.	Madrasi.	Armenian.	Buddhist.	Unspecified.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Faridpur	96,985	96,209	712	4	24	4	10	10	10	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bhushana	102,182	102,055	93	...	16	...	...	11	...	...	5	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Awanpur	102,948	102,902	25	...	1	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bhanga	187,889	187,585	271	16	11	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Muksudpur	176,418	176,303	48	1	5	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	1	58	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	666,422	665,054	1,149	21	57	4	10	49	10	2	5	...	1	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Madaripur	193,548	193,024	507	...	2	1	...	2	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gopalganj	96,834	96,587	121	...	125	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kotalipara	79,129	79,092	37	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Palang	279,084	278,613	408	...	55	...	...	3	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sibchar	131,852	131,566	236	14	31	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	780,447	778,882	1,309	14	213	6	...	5	12	...	...	1	5	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Goalundo	126,038	122,582	3,031	108	96	12	...	42	123	...	...	...	...	5	...	11	1	3	18	1	1	1	1	2
Baliakandi	97,798	97,755	32	...	9	...	...	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pangsa	126,615	126,359	198	6	41	...	...	5	5	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	350,451	346,696	3,261	114	146	12	...	49	128	...	...	...	...	5	1	11	1	3	18	1	1	1	1	2
GRAND TOTAL ...	1,797,320	1,790,632	5,719	149	416	22	10	103	150	2	5	1	6	65	1	11	1	3	18	1	1	1	1	2

There has been no change of language in this district since 1872. Neither have any marked dialects disappeared. Dialectic variation according to indigenous divisions does not appear to exist.

HEAD VIII.*—CASTES.

23. The following is a list of the principal castes in this district according to social precedence as locally recognized :—

Brahmans.—

1. Rarhi.
2. Barendra.
3. Vaidik.

A dispute for the social precedence among the three subdivisions of Brahmans has existed for a long time, and no final settlement has yet been come to. I have merely followed Mr. Risley's order in classifying them, but it appears that both the Rarhi and Barendra claim to be descended from the five Kanaujia Brahmans said to have been sent to Bengal in the 11th century, and from their Kanaujia wives. Whatever may be the real facts, I think I may say that the leading families of both of these divisions in this district enjoy about the same social position and prestige. The Vaidik Brahmans are fewer and of less account. Besides the three main subdivisions of Brahmans, there are others, such as *Acharjias* and *Barna Sarmas* (fallen Brahmans), holding a very low station in society.

24. *Kshatriya.*—Kshatriyas of this district claim to be descendants of Rajputs, and seem to have immigrated here at the time of the introduction of indigo plantations.

25. *Baidya.*—

1. Rarhi Baidya.
2. Barendra Baidya.

Rarhi Baidyas claim to have descended from Baidyas settling in *Rarh* tracts lying west of the Ganges, and to have immigrated into this district 700 years ago. Barendra Baidyas are original settlers of this place, and it is very difficult to ascertain the relative postion in society of these two classes in absence of inter marriage between them, and it is said that there are no Rarhi Baidyas in this district.

26. *Kayastha.*—Of late years this place has seen a considerable social movement among the Kayasthas, and a *Kayastha Somiti* for the purpose of discussing their place in society has been established. They claim to be descendants of Chitra Gupta, and state that he was a Kshatriya, and aspire to take their rank above Baidyas, in distinct violation of the findings of the Hon'ble High Court and Privy Council putting them among the *Sudras.* They are a large class, numbering several families of respectability and position, but are also notorious as including several families who are classed as habitual criminals. Kayasthas of this district may be subdivided into Dakhin Rarhi, Uttar Rarhi, Bangaja, and Barendra; of these, the Bangaja are by far the largest number.

27. *Vaisya.*—The Subarnabaniks of this place claim to be descended from the great Vaisya caste, who are said to be one of the twice-born castes, and their claim having no sure basis to stand upon, is generally considered to be presumptive. They hold a low status in society, and water touched by them is not taken by the higher class. Babyastadorpen of Sama Charan Sarkar places them below the *Sudras.*

28. *Sudras.*—Although originally the Sudras were but of one caste, and had but one duty or profession, to wit, to serve the twice-born classes, yet members of this caste have been subsequently subdivided into many sub-castes or classes, and almost every one of such castes has a peculiar profession assigned to it. There is one class of Sudras who are also called Navasak. They are as follows :—

1. Teli, Tili, Tamali	...	Trader chiefly in grain.
2. Malakar or Mali	...	Flower supplier and supplier of *topor* (sola crown) for Hindu marriage.
3. Karmakar ...	...	Workers in gold, iron, &c.
4. Napit ...	...	Barber.
5. Madak or Kuri	...	Confectioner.
6. Sodgop ...	...	Cultivator.
7. Tanti ...	...	Weaver.
8. Kumar ...	...	Earthen pot and image-maker.
9. Gandabanik ...	...	Spice-seller.

These sections of the Sudra caste termed Navasak are regarded to hold a higher position than the rest, and water touched by them is taken by the twice-born without being

* *Vide* letter No. 1498, dated 12th December 1892, from E. F. Growse, Esq., Magistrate of Faridpur.

considered as "impure." The rest of the Sudras are—(1) Bhuimali (sweeper), (2) Benbanshi (fisherman), (3) Behara (carrier), (4) Barui (betel-seller), (5) Dhoba (washerman), (6) Dai (midwife), (7) Aguri, (8) Jugi (weaver), (9) Kapali (weaver of gunny), (10) Ruidas (shoemaker or mochi), (11) Goala (cowherd), (12) Suri (wine-seller), (13) Shaha. Navasaks do not interchange *hukkas* with these 13 sections, who are considered to hold lower position in society than the Navasaks.

29. *Chandals.*—There has been of late a social movement amongst the Chandals. This is due to the spread of education awakening the people of this caste to the sense of social and moral degradation wherewith the origin of Chandal is associated, and an effort to repudiate their connection with the name Chandal is being made, to avoid the social stigma attaching to the Nomos. This agitation seems to be based on a very flimsy foundation. Raja Dosorath is said to have gone to Basista Muni to take counsel as to how he could expiate his sin of unwillingly spearing Shindhumuni to death, and Basista, not being at home, his son Nomos counselled him the way of atonement. The advice not being reasonable, Basista cursed his son, and hence the descendants of Nomos are called Chandals or Nomosputra. The assumption by the Chandals to be styled Nomosudra seems to rest upon no real authority.

30. *Jelia.*—

1. Malo.
2. Rajbansi.

The Rajbansis are here as a class of fishermen.

31. *Musalman.*—

1. Sayyid ... { 1. Sayyid Hosen. 2. Sayyid Hasen.
2. Shaikh.
3. Mughul.
4. Pathan.

The rank of Sayyid is derived from birth, and cannot be acquired as an honorary title, nor as a reward for the achievement of any glorious deed. All other ranks, unlike Sayyid, can be acquired, and resemble in many respects the civil and social distinction of European and other nations.

1. Pir ... ... { Are said to be descendants of Sayyid
2. Khonkar or Akhonkar ... { following religious pursuits.

Shaikh originally meant "great and magnanimous," and holder of this rank was considered to be the leader of society, but in this district Shaikh has dwindled into insignificance and applies to the cultivating class. Shaikh of this district is divided into two classes, viz.—

(1) Those descendants of great and magnanimous, taken to cultivation owing to their reduced condition.

(2) Hindus, excepting Brahmans, converted to Islamism by Muhammadan conquerors. Brahmans converted to Muhammadanism are called "Thakurs."

Mughuls are very few in this district. Pathans are said to have immigrated here at the time of Bakhtiar Khiliji, and very few of them have been able to keep up their former position, and the majority have been reduced to the status of the cultivating class. Pathans are distinguished from other classes of Muhammadans by the title Khan. Kazi, Hazi, Chowdhury, Bhina, &c., are said to have descended from Shaikh, and occupy a very low position in society.

Chandals and low-class Muhammadans occupy, in this district, the position of raiyats, occupancy and non-occupancy; intermediate tenure-holders are generally Kayasthas, Brahmans, Baidyas, and high-class Muhammadans, and these, and recently Shahas, occupy the status of zamindar. Field labourers are recruited from Chandals and low-class Muhammadans, and paid partly by wages and partly by *barga*, a system by which half the produce is taken by the landlord, and half by the cultivator.

Head IX.—Occupation.

32. The appended list shows the manner in which the population of this district is classified, as far as possible, by castes. The figures given in the list, though not accurately correct, will, I believe, be sufficient for the information asked for:—

Occupations.	Brahman.			Kshatriya.			Kayastha.			Baidya.			Sudra and others.			Vaisya.			Namasudra or Chandals.			Christians.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
Agricultural.																								
1. Land occupants, not cultivating.	1.456	1,589	3,045	...	...	...	7,621	7,694	15,315	292	443	735	1,251	2,000	3,251	89	56	145	30	27	57	...	...	...
2. Land occupants, cultivating	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,835	1,100	2,935	...	...	...
3. Tenants, not cultivating ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,692	10,344	25,036	...	...	...	16,300	20,685	36,985	...	...	...
4. Tenants, and sharers, cultivating.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	23,612	41,591	65,203	...	...	...	53,369	53,406	106,775	...	...	...
Professional	9,989	13,234	23,223	48	7	55	12,876	20,237	33,113	1,288	1,821	3,109	21,104	13,381	34,485	95	90	185	461	495	956	132	206	338
Commercial	9,782	10,343	20,125	197	188	385	16,541	16,981	33,522	652	560	1,212	5,705	5,487	11,192	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Artisans	295	637	932	...	...	...	1,035	1,500	2,535	...	...	...	56,995	55,047	112,042	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pastoral	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	256	146	402	...	...	...
Hunting and fishing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	25,692	25,290	50,982	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Serving	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	49,270	49,388	98,658	...	...	...	2,275	2,215	4,526	1,666	1,526	3,192
Unproductive	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,718	2,912	5,630	...	...	...	542	450	992	...	...	...
Total ...	21,522	25,803	47,325	245	195	440	38,073	46,412	84,485	2,232	2,824	5,056	201,039	206,440	406,479	184	146	330	75,068	78,560	153,628	1,798	1,732	3,530

Occupations.	Jains.			Shaikh.			Sayyid.			Pathan.			Mughul.			Other Muhammadans.			Total.		
	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.	Male.	Female.	Total.
26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47
Agricultural.																					
1. Land occupants, not cultivating.	...	...	...	784	644	1,428	1,856	1,722	3,578	186	170	356	124	84	208	...	...	...	13,699	14,429	28,118
2. Land occupants, cultivating	...	...	...	882	1,991	2,873	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,717	3,091	5,808
3. Tenants, not cultivating ...	...	...	...	17,134	28,881	46,015	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	48,126	59,910	108,036
4. Tenants and sharers, cultivating.	...	...	...	499,222	481,470	980,692	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12,966	17,064	30,030	589,169	593,531	1,182,700
Professional	...	...	...	7,500	5,055	12,555	5	...	5	1,377	1,304	2,681	...	...	...	305	136	441	55,180	55,966	111,146
Commercial	...	...	...	1,199	486	1,685	40	44	84	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	34,116	34,089	68,205
Artisans	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,801	1,841	3,642	60,126	59,025	119,151
Pastoral	...	...	...	511	212	723	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	767	358	1,125
Hunting and fishing ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,714	514	4,228	29,406	25,804	55,210
Serving	7	1	8	1,656	656	2,312	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,590	752	2,342	56,464	54,574	111,038
Unproductive	...	...	...	35	15	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	36	75	111	3,331	3,452	6,783
Total ...	7	1	8	528,923	519,410	1,048,333	1,901	1,766	3,667	1,563	1,474	3,037	124	84	208	20,412	20,382	40,796	893,091	904,229	1,797,320

HEAD X.—ADMINISTRATIVE.

33. On receipt of Government Circular No. M $\frac{3C}{13}$, dated the 29th April 1890, the names of the mauzas of each *thana* of this district were sent to the officer in charge of each police-station, and he was required to submit lists showing what hamlets, *gráms*, or villages now occupy each mauza area.

34. For the administrative purposes of the census, the *thana* jurisdiction was taken as a "charge," but it was divided into two or more sub-charges in consideration of the area it contained. There are 13 *thanas* in the district, and consequently it was divided into 13 charges, 33 sub-charges, 601 circles, and 9,496 blocks.

35. As soon as the district was divided for administrative purposes, the Charge Superintendents were selected from the gazetted officers and from Police Inspectors; the Sub-charge Superintendents from the police officers of the rank of Sub-Inspectors and the Rural Sub-Registrars; the Supervisors were selected from the police head-constables and from the independent gentlemen of position and intelligence; and the Enumerators chiefly from village school teachers or *gurus*, village zamindars, officials, such as *gumashtas*, &c., or else from intelligent villagers of influence and position.

36. In the meantime each *thana* of this district was plotted out with very great care and was given to its respective Charge Superintendent to include in it every village, hamlet, and outlying homestead, whilst avoiding encroachment on neighbouring jurisdiction. He was also instructed to see that internal administrative divisions of each *thana* or charge neither overlap one another nor omit any inhabited tract, however small it might be. On receipt of the residential village lists from the police officer in charge of each *thana*, and sketch maps from the Charge Superintendents, they were compared with one another in the office, and then the villages in column 5 of old Register A and that of Census Register B of 1891 were corrected, and the new Census Registers A and B prepared.

37. It was arranged that the subdivisional work of Goalundo and Madaripur would be supervised by the respective Subdivisional Officers under the general supervision of the District Magistrate.

38. I took over charge of the district on the 8th November 1890, and found the census operations very backward. In November I visited the Sibchar, Bhanga, and Muksudpur charges to push on the work. Finding that the Subdivisional Officer of Madaripur was not taking any interest in the census operations, I visited his head-quarters at the beginning of December 1890, and was obliged to arrange for immediate supervision of his five charges from head-quarters, as otherwise the work could not have progressed satisfactorily I also visited Palang, which comprised the largest charge in the Madaripur subdivision. Subsequently, I paid several visits to Goalundo and other parts of the Sadar subdivision to inspect the census arrangements. Towards the end of the month I again visited Rajbari and inspected the census work there. In January 1891, I inspected the census operations of Gopalganj charge, and adopted measures to hasten the work there.

39. I beg to quote below the remarks already submitted to the Census Superintendent in connection with the census administration:—

"I. (*a*) The general instructions were carefully observed, and there was no occasion to depart from them substantially. They had, however, to be amplified by subsidiary instructions for the guidance of the Charge Superintendents, with a view to prevent misconception and misinterpretation, and ensure uniformity of practice throughout the district.

"(*b*) The definition of a village is comprehensive and does not require any modification. No difficulty was experienced in this district in following it in the preparation of the village list.

"(*c*) The new definition of a house is an improvement, and ensures accuracy of entries under the heading of occupation. Under the old definition, there would have been much confusion in describing the provision of dependent persons. The new definition, however, led to a considerable increase in the demand of schedule books. For example, three messes containing 9, 4, and 3 persons, respectively, being in the same compound, could be treated as a single house and counted in two schedule pages under the old definition, whereas four schedule pages were necessary for the enumeration of the said 16 persons under the new arrangement.

"(*d*) A *thana* can conveniently be a census charge and an outpost a sub-charge.

"(*e*) There cannot be any hard-and-fast rule as to the size of a circle. It must be regulated according to local necessities and circumstances. A thousand houses in two or three thickly populated villages close to one another may be conveniently included in a single circle, whereas 300 or 400 houses scattered over a large area and situated in a number of isolated villages often do not form a convenient circle.

"(*f*) The size of the enumerator's block was not too large for the system of preliminary census and final check and correction on the census night.

"(*g*) Coal-tar, lime mixed with thin flour paste, and black powder mixed with the juice of *gáb* fruit were generally the materials used in numbering the houses. In a few circles, the numbers were written on slips of paper, which were affixed on conspicuous parts of the houses. The total cost of the whole district comes up to Rs. 75.

"(*h*) As most of the houses in this district are made of mat walls and thatched roofs, I do not think permanent numbering is practicable.

"II. (*a*) The supervisors and enumerators were chosen principally from village school teachers, traders, petty landed proprietors and their agents, members of *panchâyâts*, and other private gentlemen.

"(*b*) Some of the enumerators and supervisors undertook their work willingly with the hope of getting an appointment in the census office, while those who did not care for such appointment tried to shirk their work. With such men persuasive means were at first tried, and in a majority of cases were attended with success. When persuasion failed, the refractory nominees were served with notices to show cause why they should not be criminally prosecuted, and in most cases they appeared and accepted the appointments. Prosecution was resorted to as sparingly as possible to overcome this difficulty.

"(*c*) The following table shows the number of prosecutions and their result :—

NAME OF SUBDIVISION.	Persons convicted.	Persons acquitted.	Pending.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5
Goalundo	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Madaripur	1	...	1	2
Sadar	3	3	...	6

Almost all the prosecutions were instituted against persons who, without sufficient cause, neglected and refused to undertake the census work.

"(*d*) In almost every charge, the enumerators of their own free will, and from a desire to be accurate and neat in filling up the printed schedules, prepared manuscript schedule books, in which they recorded the result of their first round before copying them in the printed schedule books. They did this also in the hope of getting appointments in the census office. There was no paid census officer in this district.

"III. Census was not a new thing in India. Persons more than 30 years old remembered the last two counts and understood its object. The work was smoothly done everywhere. The Chandals, however, under bad advice, asked to be classified as Namasudras. As I at once gave permission for this to be done, their agitation at once subsided.

"IV. The results will be very accurate. The manuscript schedule books filled up by the enumerators were minutely examined and corrected by the charge and sub-charge officers and supervisors. The entries in the printed schedules are, therefore, wonderfully neat and accurate. Special officers were deputed to almost all the circles and ghats of the Sadar subdivision to supervise the work on the census night. All the *chaukidars* throughout the district were directed to inform the police officers in charge of stations on the 27th February whether the enumerators visited every house in their block on the census night. The work was thus done most satisfactorily throughout the district. I personally supervised the boat census at Golaundo, which I am glad to say was thoroughly successful.

GENERAL REMARKS.

40. The rules issued by the Manager, Eastern Bengal Railway, were good, but were not well carried out owing to the carelessness and inattention of his subordinates. Mr. Thompson, the Subdivisional Officer of Golaundo, worked hard to make the census a success. Babu Hari Mohan Sen, the late Subdivisional Officer of Madaripur, failed completely, the result being that I had to treat his subdivision as immediately under my control, and manage the arrangements entirely from Sadar.

Babu Raj Mohan Chuckerbutty, Deputy Magistrate in charge of census operations, has worked hard and intelligently. He deserves special commendation. I have rewarded the census clerk, Babu Gunga Govinda Mitra, for his good work by appointing him Inspector in the abstraction office.

* * * * *

41 The abstraction and tabulation of this district occupied a perod of five months. Abstraction at first commenced from the 1st April with one gang and from the 9th April with four full gangs, and tabulation from June last. The work was completed on the 28th July and 31st August last respectively, and the office was finally closed on the 15th September last.

42. Before the census was actually taken, arrangements were made for preparing 'M' and 'O' forms, and the instructions in paragraphs 3, 4, 5, and 9 of the Census Superintendent's Circular No. 37, dated the 19th January 1891, were thoroughly well understood by all census officers of this district down to the supervisors. Consequently all 'O' forms with totals were received in proper time by this office. Having obtained the final totals for the whole district, telegrams were sent to the Census Superintendent and to the Census Commissioner on the evening of the 5th March 1891, giving the exact figures.

43. Arrangements afterwards were made for collecting the enumeration books from the different charges, and bringing them to head-quarters, where the contents of all the enumeration books for each thana were compared with 'M' form on the top of each packet by my record-keeper, who was afterwards appointed Inspector. The enumeration books were

then made up by him into packets of 5,000 persons. Thus one-third of the books of the district were packed up by him with the assistance of the two assistant record-keepers, before the commencement of the abstraction work. I am glad to say that, from the very begininng of this office, the record-room arrangements were satisfactory, and the work of packing was always kept ahead of the abstraction work.

44. In this office almost all of the officers were selected from enumerators and supervisors, who did good census work, and a certain number also from school-boys. The Inspector and some other officers who were then appointed as record-keeper and room supervisors were trained here by myself and the Deputy Magistrate then in charge without sending them to the training centre. The Inspector was ordered to train the best enumerators appointed as abstractors. With one gang thus trained, the abstraction work first started here on the 1st April. In the meantime, the enumerators afterwards appointed as abstractors for the remaining three gangs, were allowed to sit by the trained abstractors in the rooms, and were then able to learn the work. The abstraction work of a population of 1,797,320 persons was thus completed within four months without any difficulty, or the necessity of entertaining any extra clerks. It appears that the total population of the district exceeded the figures shown at first in 'O' form by 4,892.

45. In the first eight days' work, the abstractors felt some difficulty in completing the allotted task, but subsequently no such complaint was heard. The daily task of a clerk was never allowed to fall in arrears. Sometimes illness of a clerk employed on sheets I, III, and XI necessitated that the abstractors of those rooms could not leave the office till they had completed the absentee's work, and consequently the Census Superintendent's instructions contained in paragraph 5 of the draft rules for stopping work after 6 P.M., could not always be observed.

46. The instructions in paragraphs 4 and 2 of the Census Superintendent's Circulars Nos. 61 and 78, dated the 16th April and 16th June, respectively, assisted this office in checking the work.

It was a pity, however, that they were not issued before April. No extra clerk, however, was entertained in this office for re-abstraction, although sanction was given by paragraph 4 of the Census Superintendent's Circular No. 71. I am glad to say that the abstraction work of this office was, on the whole, done very briskly and smoothly, and from the beginning of the work, accuracy was strictly observed and fudging avoided, consequently this office from start to finish completed the work without feeling any difficulty in re-abstraction and test slips. These two parts of the work were done in this office satisfactorily. The arrear test-slip clerks were retained for 19 days only. The re-abstraction and adjustment staffs and test-slip clerks were retained only for three months. The work of all these branches was done to my satisfaction.

47. I beg also to state here that I continually examined the census compilation office, and I can safely say that the enumeration books of all thanas of this district were accurately written and all columns of the books were properly filled up. It appeared that, in the course of abstraction, only 136 omissions were found in the columns of the enumeration books of this district out of a population of 1,797,320. This, I believe, was mainly due to the proper supervision of the circle officers, and the interest which the enumerators took in their work. The time, the number of clerks, and the task allowed for abstraction were, in my opinion, not insufficient. The following table will show the daily abstraction task exacted from a clerk of this office:—

Description of sheets.	Task allowed.	Task done.
1	2	3
On sheet I ...	1,666 persons ...	1,666 persons
„ II ...	2,500 „ ...	2,500 „
„ III ...	1,250 „ ...	1,250 „
„ IV ...	2,500 „ ...	2,500 „
„ V ...	5,000 „ ...	5,000 „
„ VI ...	5,000 „ ...	5,000 „
„ X ...	1,666 „ ...	1,666 „
„ XI ...	1,250 „ ...	1,250 „

The pay allowed to abstractors at Rs. 12 each was sufficient. The limit of one adjustment for each 100 persons or less allowed by the Census Superintendent was reasonable. The forms of registers supplied to this office were sufficient. They were very sparingly used here. The daily tasks of abstractors, re-abstractors, and test-slip clerks were not heavy. They completed their daily work regularly. I am glad to mention here that the

cost of original abstraction and of its checking has been kept within the limit of the sanctioned expenditure, and there was thus a saving of Rs. 1,230.

The following table shows the amount expended on each head, and the amount saved on each, in accordance with the calculation in Census Superintendent's Circular No. 67 :—

Description of head.	Amount expended.	Amount saved.
1	2	3
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Abstraction	4,215 3 4	584 12 4
Re-abstraction	540 3 10	515 12 2
Adjustment	307 7 1	92 8 11
Cost for preparation of test slips and R. form.	394 13 11	37 2 1
Total ...	5,457 12 2	1,230 3 6

48. The tabulation work of this office commenced from the middle of June, owing to non-receipt of forms in time, consequently this branch of work was at first somewhat backward. At first only such tabulators from amongst the abstractors were entertained as knew English and were considered competent, but as the demands of Government letter No. 2T.—F., dated the 12th June last, for completion of the work at the latest by the 15th August last, grew more pressing, this list had to be abandoned. After the completion of abstraction work, any clerks who could read and write were employed as tabulators to finish the work in time. In the month of August, under the instructions in Census Superintendent's Circular No. 85, dated the 17th July, 11 gangs of tabulators were entertained in this office. For each *thana* one gang of tabulators was engaged, except for the Palang *thana*, which is the largest and for which two gangs were entertained. My Inspector, Babu Ganga Gobinda Mitra, was directed to keep strict supervision over the clerks, so that their allotted daily tasks should not fall into arrears. The verification of tabulation was also carefully enforced. He performed his duties satisfactorily, completed the tabulation on the 31st August last, and received a reward of Rs. 75, under the Census Superintendent's order, for good work.

49. The daily allotted task of two tabulators on Registers I, III, IV, V, VI *a*, *b*, *c*, and X and X*a* of infirmities was, in my opinion, too heavy. The best abstractors of sheet I were engaged on those registers, but they never were able to work off a daily task of 40 blocks. Excepting these, the task of other registers was not heavy. The outturn in tabulation of this office was on an average more than 1,000 blocks a month, including totalling forms.

50. The processes of abstracting and tabulating were equally laborious and tedious, but the work of tabulators on abstracted sheet I was comparatively heavier than that of other sheets. I, therefore, think that it was proper to pay the tabulators on sheet I more than the tabulators on other sheets.

51. The piece-work was introduced at a very early stage of the tabulation work; this caused some discontent at first, which, however, soon subsided on the application of judicious advice. In this office the selection of upper clerks was made from educated men in the Collectorate and Magisterial Departments. They proved themselves trustworthy and reliable in times of difficulty.

The following table shows the cost of tabulation and other establishment :—

Description of head.	Amount expended.	Excess amount.
1	2	3
	Rs. A. P.	Rs. A. P.
Tabulation	1,900 6 2	220 6 2
Cost of other expenditure, viz., salaries of Inspectors, Record-keeper, &c. ...	2,510 1 11	234 1 11
Total ...	4,410 8 1	454 8 1

From the above expenditure, as well as on that of abstraction, it appears that this office has completed the compilation of 1,797,320 souls for Rs. 9,868-4-3.

52. The totalling forms W, Y, S, and Z were prepared without entertaining any extra staff and almost simultaneously with tabulation. I think that they were accurately prepared.

E

F. daC.- Reg. No 2812J—90—16-5-94.